

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L YEREVAN 000173

SIPDIS

EUR/CACEN, EUR/SNEC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/01/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PBTS](#) [AM](#) [AJ](#) [OSCE](#)

SUBJECT: ARMENIA CONFIRMS RELEASE OF POWS BY AZERBAIJAN

Classified By: DCM A.F. GODFREY for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Valery Mkrtumian, head of the Armenian MFA's International Organization Department confirmed that Azeri authorities released four Armenian soldiers on January 27 and delivered them to the Armenian border. Quoting his recent conversation with the Minister of Defense Serzh Sargsian, Mkrtumian stated that he believed the Azeris released the soldiers because the Armenians released two captured soldiers within the past month. He characterized the release by the Azeris as "goodwill manifested." Mkrtumian further stated that Armenia holds no Azeri prisoners and that he believes Azerbaijan currently holds no Armenians.

EVANS